# Senator Denounces Rhea and Declares Him Unfit for Post

Republican Member Makes Sensational Charges Against Governor's Nominee for Corporation Commission and Holds Up Confirmation by Assembly.

## COMMITTEE ARRANGES TO HOLD INVESTIGATION; JUDGE COMING

Session One of Most Bitter Ever Held by Legislature ... Democratic Delegate Hurls

> Counter Charges at Republican Leaders in Southwest Virginia.

## NOEL'S CHARGE AGAINST RHEA AND WHAT LATTER SAYS OF IT

The Charge

"Not a political crime has been committed in the Ninth District in fifteen years with which William F. Rhea was not connected. I charge that he held a seat in Congress for two terms which was procured by fraud, and made a bold attempt to steal if a third time. He has been repeatedly charged on the stump with having accepted a bribe of \$2,000 while judge of Washington County Court."-Senator John C. Noel, of Lee, before General Assembly

The Reply

"I have nothing to any as to Senator Noel's charges except that I am willing for the General Assembly or its joint committee to make the fullest investigation of my judicial, legislative and political career. It is impossible and hope I will have the privilege of meeting the joint committee any time its members may desire."—Judge Rhen to Times-Dispatch correspond-

The Action

"Let us recommit this nomination and give a fair chance for a full investigation, and if those who have assailed Judge Rhea's character cannot substantiate their charges, lef them bear the edium and ignominy of slanderops lisra sembly.

"Hon. Robert W. Withers, of Suffolk, before General Assembly.

After one of the most sensational joint sessions or the General Assembly ever held, and as the result of sweeping and bitter charges freely made by Senator John C. Noel (Republican), of Lee county, the nomination by Governor Swanson of Judge William F. Rhead of Bristol, to be a member of the State Corporation Commission to succeed Hon. Henry C. Stuart, of Russell, who retires on February 1st, was sent back to the Joint Committee on Confirmation before which the allegations will be filed in writing, and a thorough investigation will be made.

Although the intention of Senator Noel to attack the character of Judge Rhea and the question of fitness for the counties of the same will show this.

"He has been repeatedly charged on the stump in the Ninth District with the stump in the

And the state of t

terday, they will produce a sensation, for he set against Judge Rhea nearly every form of political trickery that can be found in the category.

Makes Biting Charges.

"Mr. speaker," said the Senator addressing the joint session, "those who are placed upon the bench of our State as Corporation Cimmissioners, should be men wholly above susption, and of the highest personnel and political intergrity."

Continuing he paid a glowing tribute to Hon. Henry C. Stuart, and declared that the people of the Ninth District without regard to party, were opposed to Judge Rhea as his successor.

"I assort, sir," he went on, "that not a political crime has been committed in the Ninth District in fifteen years, with which Wm. F. Rhea was not in some way connected.

"I charge that he held a seat in Congress for two terms which was procurred by fraud, and that he made a bold attempt to steal it a third time.

"The poil books of Russell, Scott and

Governor's Nominee and Senator Who Denounced Him



JUDGE W. F. RHEA, of Bristol

Effect of What He Says on His Candidacy Not Sufficient Bribe to Keep His Mouth Closed.

MAKES PLEA FOR BECKHAM

Urges Importance of Having Democrats in Senate and House as Well as at White House.

FRANKFORT, KY., January 21.—The climax of W. J. Bryan's visit 10 Frankfort was reached this afternoon when he spoke to the Democratic members of the Legislature behind closed doors, advocating the election of former Governor Beckham as United States Senator.

Mr. Bryan said neither Governor Beckham nor anybody else had invited him to Frankfort. He declared he had no fears for himself. He said he was told in the Goebel campaign that he might hurt himself if he came to Kentucky. "I am not afraid of hurting myself when the interests of the Democratic party are at stake," said Mr. Bryan.

"I may be a candidate this year," he said. "I do not know."

# NOT HOLD CONFERENCE NOW

It is indefinitely Postponed for Fear It

May Be Misuaderstood.

NEW YORK, Junuary 21.—The proposed conference of old-line Democrats from all over the United States, which was to have been sheld in this city next Thursday to discuss issues that might be urged at the Democratic National Convention, has been indefinitely postponed. Suggestions were forthcoming at the time the call was made that the abilities of possible candidates for the presidency on the Democratic ticket would be tentatively considered. The official statement, issued to-night, postponing the conference, is signed by Sherman M. Craiger, and is as follows:

"It has been deemed advisable by certain gentlemen interested in the

"It has been deemed advisable by certain gentlemen interested in the success of the Democratic party that a conference should be held by man representing the different views as to the issues that should be urged upon the Democratic National Convention, the purpose being to secure unanimity of action and strength for the party. Accordingly invitations were sent out for such a conference, to be held in this city on the 23d instant.

"In view of the fact that it was not the purpose of those interested in the conference to promote or retard the prospects of any of the candidates mentioned for the nomination for the presidency, it is thought advisable, in

# HE HAD LONG LOVED

Frank Cawthorn Goes to Home of Sidney Jones and Shoots Latter's Young Wife.

### LOVED HER BEFORE MARRIAGE

Could Not Bear to See Her Live with Another, and Had Long Intended to End Her Life.

CHRISTIANSBURG, VA., January 2

order to avoid missenstruction, to postpone the conference to a later date."

HAD WINE, BUT NO GOVERNOR

Fearing Prohibition Law Might Be Involved, Governor Stays Awsy.

ATLANTA, GA., January 21.—Although the officials of the Virgina Society refuse to be interviewed on the subject, it is stated on excellent authority that the absence of Governor lage to Jones eighteen months ago,

## MAY ACT ON PROHIBITION

Carcular Legislature Act.

[Special to The Times-Dispatch.]

RALEIGH, N. C., January 21.—

deparate caucuses of the Democratic

embers of the Senate and House of epresentatives, to-night voted to per action on State prohibition in that there shall be passed bills providing for a general election on prohibition

the bill, and to be effective several months after the election.

The resolution by the Senate was simply that it was the sense of the Senate that a bill be prepared submitting prohibition to a vote of the people of the State. The House resolution declared that it was the sense of the

The Senate caucus gave a lengthy hearing to the committee from the prohibition convention, but the House caucus declined to admit the committee for a hearing. Early In the session of the House caucus there was a vote of 42 to 41, "later reconsidered" against considering prohibition at this session at all, and for confining the deliberations for the term to rate matters. Representatives W. C. Douglass, of Wake, and J. E. Buchanan, of Moore county, bolted the caucus at this stage, declining to be bound by such actions. Douglass declared as he left that he would introduce prohibition bill or "bust."

## DEBARS PATENT MEDICINES

Asheville Police Justice Says The Come Under Prohibition Law.
[Special to The Times-Dispatch ]
ASHEVILLE, N. C., January 21.—

Police Justice G. Spears Reynolds, who achieved fame by issuing a warrant for the arrest of President Finley, of the Southern Railway, while that gentleman was in this city during the railroad rate hearing before Judge Pritchard, has made a novel decision, which will materially curtail, if not entirely prohibit the sale of patent medicines in this city. Judge Reynolds decided that patent medicines containing a percentage of alcohol came under the prohibition law, and therefore could not be sold without a physician's prescription. Police Justice G. Spears Reynolds

Rhea's haracter cannot, substantiate their charges, let them bear the odium and ignominy of standerers, llars and traducers,"

Others Confirmed.

When Mr. Cooke's motion to recommit was put it was adopted by a unanimous vote.

The joint session had meanwille confirmed without objection the nominations of Judge R. R. Prentis, of Suffering Court of the Legislature to-day, speaking chief circle, for the unexpired term of Judge R. R. Prentis, of Suffering Court of the Legislature for Collymbus, and meanwille confirmed without objection the nominations of Judge R. R. Prentis, of Suffering Court of the Legislature for Collymbus, and meanwille confirmed without objection the nominations of Judge R. R. Prentis, of Suffering Court of Court

## LETTER BEARS OUT **EVELYN'S SAD STORY**

One Written By Thaw Soon After She Told Him of White's Treatment.

## END FOR DEFENSE IS DRAWING NEAR

Hope to Conclude Other Testimony To-Day and Get Through with Experts To-Morrow.

Jerome Less Severe in Concluding Cross-Examination.

NEW YORK, January 21.-District Attorney Jerome's long and severe Attorney Jorome's long and severe cross-examination of Mrs. Evelyn Nesbit Thaw, in the trial of her husband, came to an end late to-day. The attorneys for the defense then succeeded in placing in evidence a letter written by the defendant in the fall of 1903, which completely corroborated the claim that the girl, who was to become his wife, did tell him the story of her relations with Stanford White, much as she had related it upon the stand at this and the former trial. This letter was one of a dozen which

stand at this and the former trial.

This letter was one of a dozen which were read to the jury as tending to corroborate young Mrs. Thaw's testimony, and as further tending to show the effect her story had upon the defendant's mind.

Most of these letters were read to the jury in the former trial, and were considered as one of the strongest bits of evidence in the hands of the defense.

Admits the Letters.

Mr. Jerome objected to their intro-

Admits the Letters,
Mr. Jerome objected to their introduction into the record to-day, but was,
overruled by Justice Dowling, after
Thaw himself had made a waiver of the

ches in this city. Judge Reynolds decided that patent medicines containing a percentage of alcohol cane under the prohibition law, and therefore could not be sold without a physician's prescription.

George Goodlake was before Judge Reynolds for drunkenness, and upon examination stated that he had becoming affiner of drunkenness, and upon examination stated that he had becoming affiner of drunkenness, and upon examination stated that he had becoming affiner which he had obtained at the drug store of Dr. Smith. The Judge at once ordered a warrant for the arrest of Mr. A. W. Deland, the patent medicine. There will be a further hearing in the case next Monday.

Judge Reynolds says he had no alternative but to enforce the laws on the statute books, and that as the United States internal revenue Jawy. Aked one-half of one per cent. as a percentage in medicines on which tax must be pald, and that as it was shown that sate health of one per cent. as a percentage in medicines could actually be used as internal revenue Jawy. Aked one-half of one per cent. as a percentage in medicines could actually be used as internal revenue Jawy. Aked one-half of one per cent. as a percentage in medicines could actually be used in the medicines could actually be used as internal revenue Jawy. Aked one-half of one per cent. as a percentage in medicines could actually be used in the sate of liquor under the prohibition law.

ANGRY WOMAN'S ACT

ANGRY WOMAN'S ACT

Attempts Suicide Because Complaint in Court Is Dismissed.

[Special to The Times-Dispatch,]

NEWPORT NEWS, V.A., January 21.

—Angered because of the result of a police court case in which she had light, mad plate to the policy of the